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Ethnologisches Bilderbuch mit erklärendem Text. Berlin, 1887.

Another work of Bastian, published at the same time and sold separately, is an atlas representing pictorially a selection of the subjects treated in the above work. Contains twenty-five plates, six in colors. Here we find pictures representing cosmogony, creation and fall of the first man, plans of the universe and the seven skies, ancient geography, gigantomachy, hell and devils, last judgment, and many other subjects; the whole explained by notes printed on the back of the plates. Even the cosmogonical part of the Delaware *Walam-Olum* is introduced, and the atlas concludes with some notes on Asiatic and Polynesian speculations. A. S. G.

The *geographic distribution of the bow and arrow in Africa* is the subject of a paper read in May, 1887, before the Royal Saxon Academy, by Prof. Friedrich Ratzel. It contains many memorable and curious facts. In America there is hardly a tribe that was not in possession of these implements in former times, but in Africa there are many of these, especially in the north and east. The Kaffrians, especially the Zulu, are using the lance instead, and in the north the lance preponderates over the bow because it is the weapon of the ruling class. The bow of some nations is exceedingly simple, especially that of the Hottentots. A good little map presents the results of the professor's investigations in a very succinct manner.

Another article by the same author deals with the subject of *anthropophagy* and the views heretofore expressed upon its origin. He thinks the countries in which human sacrifices were practiced would probably coincide with the areas of anthropophagy. (Mitteilungen der Anthropol. Ges. in Wien, 1887; also issued separately.)

A. S. G.

H. Conon von der Gabelentz was one of the first linguists who methodically pursued the study of the non-classical and illiterate languages. Born in 1807, in Saxony, the publication of Bopp's, von Humboldt's, and J. Grimm's fundamental works on linguistics occurred during his youthful years and had a powerful influence upon his development. He became conspicuous by his publications on various

Ural-Altaic languages, on Mœsogothic and on Melanesian dialects, and on the Khasia, a language on the southern slope of the Himalayan range. In this treatise upon the passive form of the verb he gave the result of his investigations of about two hundred languages. His death occurred in 1874, and in 1886 a biographic sketch was published by his son in the "Reports of Royal Academy of Sciences of Saxony" (read Dec. 11) of 25 pages. In this we read that the modest savant preferred investigation to authorship, and whenever he edited any of his works he did it more to communicate to the outside world the facts discovered by him than his own views and ideas. Of American languages he treated the Cherokee, Kiriri, and Dakota.

A. S. G.

L'Homme avant l'histoire, par Ch. Debierre. J. B. Baillière, 1888.
(*Bibliothèque scientifique contemporaine.*)

This is a small neat book, about the size of a French novel, of over three hundred pages, in which are presented in a concise form the most important facts known to science concerning prehistoric man, including the origin of the race. Designed as a popular treatise, it is only a compilation of material already published elsewhere; and, although it gives us the latest information, it gives us nothing absolutely new. Many who confine their scientific reading to popular treatises, we fancy, like to have their conclusions drawn for them. Doubt is rarely a happy state of mind, and the labor of settling doubts is tedious. Such readers will be disappointed in this work. In most cases the author sums up the evidence, but leaves the reader to make up his own mind. For our part we regret there are not more like him. The work is illustrated with 84 figures, many of which we recognize as old veterans in this service. We trust an English translator may be found for this handy volume.

PILLING'S BIBLIOGRAPHIES.—In 1885 Mr. James Constantine Pilling, of the Bureau of Ethnology in Washington, published his proof-sheets of a Bibliography of the North American Indians, a volume of nearly 1200 pages. It has since occurred to the author to publish his material in separate parts, each relating to one of the more prominent linguistic stocks in North America. In pursuance of this